

NORTH CAROLINA
REPORT OF
HUNTING AND
HUNTING RELATED ACCIDENTS
AND FATALITIES



2006-2007

compiled and published by the
NORTH CAROLINA WILDLIFE RESOURCES
COMMISSION
DIVISION OF ENFORCEMENT

**State of North Carolina
Michael F. Easley / Governor**

**Department of Environment
and Natural Resources**

William G. Ross / Secretary

North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission

Fred Harris / Interim Executive Director

**2006 - 2007 North Carolina Annual Hunting & Hunting Related Accident Report
North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission
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**NORTH CAROLINA
REPORT OF HUNTING ACCIDENTS AND FATALITIES
2006 - 2007**

This annual report contains statistics and information extracted from hunting accident reports submitted to the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission during the 2006 - 2007 hunting season.

For the purpose of this statistical report, a hunting accident is considered to be an injury to an individual arising from hunting, firearm or archery related activity classified either "A", "B" or "C" as follows:

- A. An accident/incident resulting from the discharge of a firearm or bow while hunting, which causes the injury or death of any person(s).
- B. An accident/incident while hunting, not involving the discharge of a firearm or bow, which causes the injury or death of any person(s).
- C. Any other accident/incident resulting from the discharge of a firearm or bow, which causes the injury or death of any person(s), other than while hunting.

The purpose of the Report of Hunting and Hunting Related Accidents is to provide statistical information on the similarities, causes, frequency, and location of hunting accidents. This information is analyzed to aid in determining the directions of measures to deter hunting and hunting related accidents. By publishing this information and including it in Hunter Education Programs, the Wildlife Resources Commission hopes to reduce the number of hunting and hunting related accidents and fatalities to make the sport safer for all.

Public concern about hunting accidents has been responsible for laws being enacted to require hunters to wear a hunter orange outer garment or hat and to require mandatory hunter education for new hunters. Copies of these laws are included in this publication.

Fred Harris
Interim Executive Director

**NORTH CAROLINA HUNTING ACCIDENT AND HUNTER EDUCATION STATISTICS
TEN YEAR AVERAGES**

Hunting Seasons 1960-1990

Hunting Seasons	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Total	#Licensed Hunters	Students Trained	Students Certified
1960-1970	13	43	56	414,900	-----	-----
1970-1980	9	23	32	398,554	21,453	16,854
1980-1990	8	33	41	397,275	26,589	23,618

ANNUAL TOTALS

Hunting Seasons 1990-1991 through 2006-2007

Hunting Seasons	Fatal	Non-Fatal	Total	#Licensed Hunters	Students Trained	Students Certified
1990-1991	6	36	42	388,795	22,352	20,226
1991-1992	5	38	43	353,992	31,932	29,365
1992-1993	5	27	32	351,787	23,887	22,120
1993-1994	1	25	26	370,400	22,504	20,469
*1994-1995	5	47	52	585,875	20,126	18,891
*1995-1996	6	42	48	365,326	17,787	16,347
*1996-1997	4	34	38	360,575	15,019	13,985
*1997-1998	3	37	40	360,614	15,483	14,425
*1998-1999	5	41	46	400,051	14,761	14,062
*1999-2000	5	24	29	453,865	14,928	14,572
*2000-2001	5	22	27	375,842	15,529	14,865
*2001-2002	4	36	40	371,809	13,660	13,503
*2002-2003	4	37	41	360,432	16,153	16,121
*2003-2004	3	33	36	387,410	14,551	16,269
*2004-2005	6	48	54	420,425	13,593	13,593
*2005-2006	8	34	42	**427,608	18,843	17,886
*2006-2007	5	33	38	440,896	18,674	17,752

*Data has been changed to include treestand and other hunting-related accidents.

**The total number of licensed hunters, students trained and certified were not accurate numbers for 2005-2006. These are the actual numbers that reflect the hunting season 2005-2006.

2006 - 2007 HUNTING AND HUNTING RELATED ACCIDENTS
July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007

- ⇒ 5 Fatal
- ⇒ 33 Non-Fatal
- ⇒ 38 Total Accidents (Type "A", "B", & "C")

SELF-INFLICTED ACCIDENTS

- ⇒ 2 Fatal
- ⇒ 16 Non-Fatal

**Of these self-inflicted accidents, 4 were fatal treestand falls

TWO PARTY ACCIDENTS

Type "A"

- ⇒ 1 Non-Fatal
- ⇒ 0 Fatal

OF THE TOTAL 42 HUNTING AND HUNTING RELATED ACCIDENTS

- ⇒ Type "A" - 1 Fatal, 25 Non-Fatal
- ⇒ Type "B" - 3 Fatal, 8 Non-Fatal
- ⇒ Type "C" - 1 Fatal, 0 Non-Fatal

HUNTING AND HUNTING RELATED ACCIDENTS PER COUNTY

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>NON-FATAL</u>	<u>FATAL</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Alamance	0	0	0
Alexander	0	0	0
Alleghany	0	0	0
Anson	1	0	1
Ashe	0	0	0
Avery	0	0	0
Beaufort	0	0	0
Bertie	0	0	0
Bladen	2	0	2
Brunswick	1	0	1
Buncombe	0	0	0
Burke	2	0	2
Cabarrus	0	1	1
Caldwell	0	0	0
Camden	0	0	0
Carteret	0	0	0
Caswell	0	1	1
Catawba	1	0	1
Chatham	2	0	2
Cherokee	0	0	0
Chowan	1	0	1
Clay	0	0	0
Cleveland	0	0	0
Columbus	1	0	1
Craven	0	0	0
Cumberland	1	0	1
Currituck	0	0	0
Dare	0	0	0
Davidson	0	0	0
Davie	0	0	0
Duplin	0	0	0
Durham	0	0	0
Edgecombe	0	0	0
Forsyth	0	0	0
Franklin	0	0	0
Gaston	0	0	0
Gates	0	0	0

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>NON-FATAL</u>	<u>FATAL</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Graham	0	0	0
Granville	0	0	0
Greene	0	0	0
Guilford	0	0	0
Halifax	2	0	2
Harnett	0	0	0
Haywood	0	0	0
Henderson	0	0	0
Hertford	0	0	0
Hoke	0	0	0
Hyde	0	0	0
Iredell	0	0	0
Jackson	0	0	0
Johnston	0	0	0
Jones	0	0	0
Lee	0	0	0
Lenoir	0	0	0
Lincoln	1	0	1
Macon	0	0	0
Madison	0	0	0
Martin	0	0	0
McDowell	1	1	2
Mecklenburg	0	0	0
Mitchell	0	0	0
Montgomery	0	1	1
Moore	1	0	1
Nash	0	0	0
New Hanover	0	0	0
Northampton	1	0	1
Onslow	0	0	0
Orange	1	0	1
Pamlico	1	0	1
Pasquotank	0	0	0
Pender	1	0	1
Perquimans	0	0	0
Person	0	1	1
Pitt	1	0	1
Polk	1	0	1

<u>COUNTY</u>	<u>NON-FATAL</u>	<u>FATAL</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Randolph	1	0	1
Richmond	0	0	0
Robeson	2	0	2
Rockingham	3	0	3
Rowan	0	0	0
Rutherford	0	0	0
Sampson	0	0	0
Scotland	0	0	0
Stanly	0	0	0
Stokes	0	0	0
Surry	0	0	0
Swain	0	0	0
Transylvania	0	0	0
Tyrrell	0	0	0
Union	1	0	1
Vance	0	0	0
Wake	1	0	1
Warren	1	0	1
Washington	0	0	0
Wayne	1	0	1
Wilkes	0	0	0
Wilson	0	0	0
Yadkin	0	0	0
Yancey	0	0	0
Totals:	33	5	38

3. DATE: 11/18/06 CLASS: B
VICTIM WEARING BLAZE ORANGE: NO
VICTIM DISTANCE FROM MUZZLE: N/A TREESTAND FALL

VICTIM WAS USING A LOCK-ON TYPE TREESTAND. THE VICTIM WAS NOT WEARING A FALL RESTRAINT DEVICE, AND FELL FROM THE STAND FORWARDS AS EVIDENCE FROM A BENT SHOOTING STICK SHOWS. THE VICTIM SUFFERED MASSIVE HEAD TRAUMA AS A RESULT OF THE FALL. A MARIJUANA JOINT WAS FOUND IN THE VICTIM'S POCKET BY THE LOCAL SHERRIF'S OFFICE INVESTIGATOR. THE POSSIBLE USE OF MARIJUANA AND THE LACK OF A FALL RESTRAINT DEVICE WAS THE CAUSE OF THIS ACCIDENT.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS IN THIS ACCIDENT INCLUDE: *APPARENT USE OF INTOXICANTS/DRUGS, FAILURE TO USE SAFETY BELT.*

4. DATE: 12/12/06 CLASS: B
VICTIM WEARING BLAZE ORANGE: YES
VICTIM DISTANCE FROM MUZZLE: N/A TREESTAND FALL

VICTIM WAS USING A HOMEMADE TREESTAND. VICTIM LEFT EARLY IN THE MORNING TO GO HUNTING IN HIS TREESTAND. WHEN HE DID NOT RETURN, HIS WIFE CALLED HER DAUGHTER TO MEET HER AT THE LOCATION WHERE THE VICTIM WAS SUPPOSED TO BE HUNTING. WHEN THEY ARRIVED, THEY FOUND THE VICTIM LYING ON THE GROUND MOTIONLESS. THEY THEN CALLED 911. THE MEDICAL EXAMINER DETERMINED THAT THE VICTIM HAD A FRACTURED SKULL THAT KILLED HIM ON IMPACT WITH HIS HEAD TO THE GROUND. IT APPEARS THE VICTIM WAS STANDING UP URINATING IN A CONTAINER LEANING ON TO THE WEAK PORTION OF HIS STAND AT THE RAILING AROUND THE BOTTOM WHEN IT GAVE WAY AND HE FELL TO THE GROUND HEAD FIRST. THERE WAS A CONTAINER WITH URINE IN IT AT THE BOTTOM OF THE TREE AS WELL. THERE WAS NO SAFETY BELT USED AT ALL OR ANY TYPE OF RESTRAINT.

CONTRIBUTING FACTORS IN THIS ACCIDENT INCLUDE: *FAILURE TO USE SAFETY BELT.*

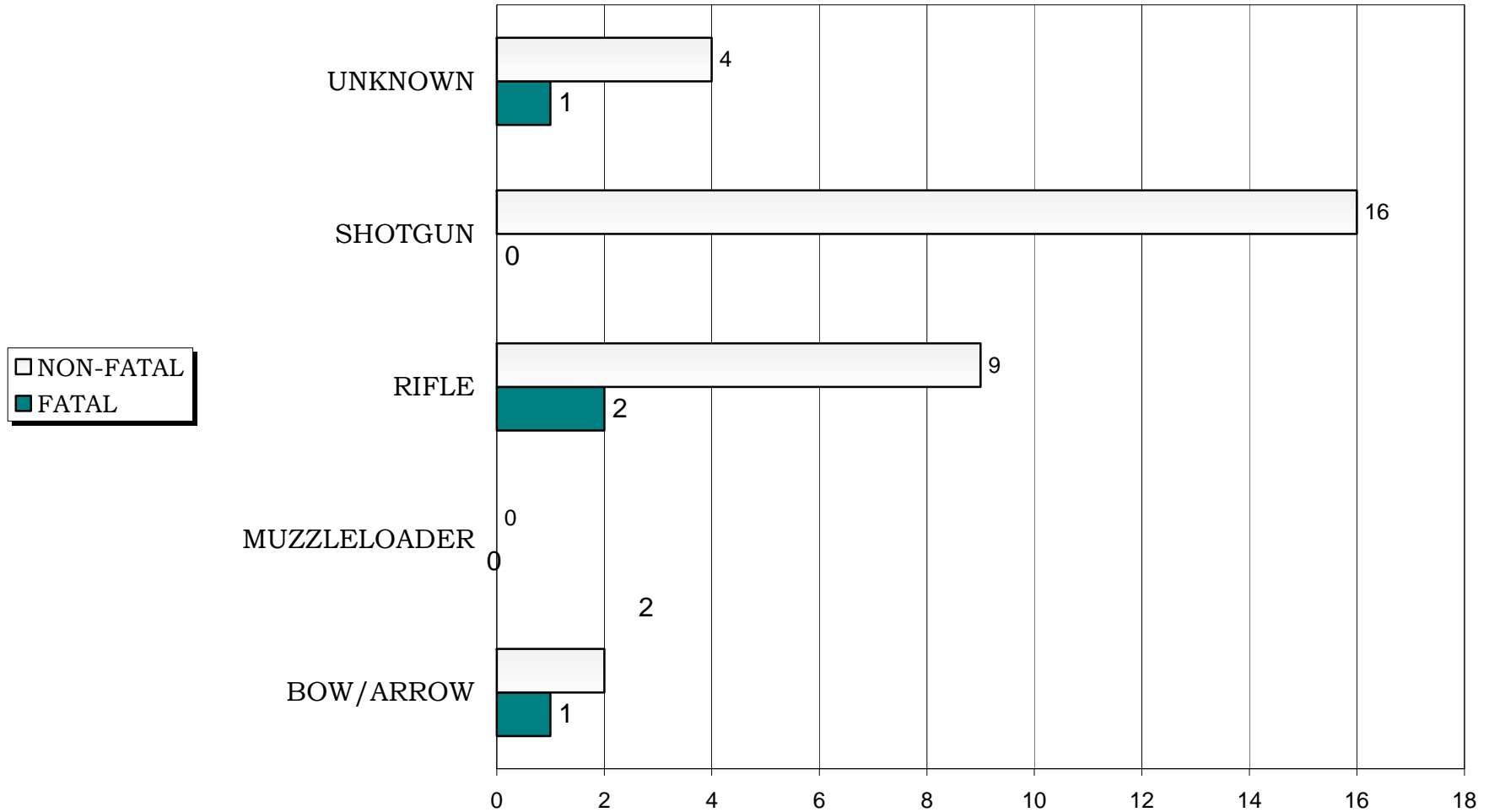
CONTRIBUTING FACTORS IN HUNTING ACCIDENTS

Below is a list of the contributing factors involved in hunting accidents and the number of times these factors occurred during this report period. Data reflects Type "A, B and C" hunting accidents. (Some accidents had more than one contributing factor).

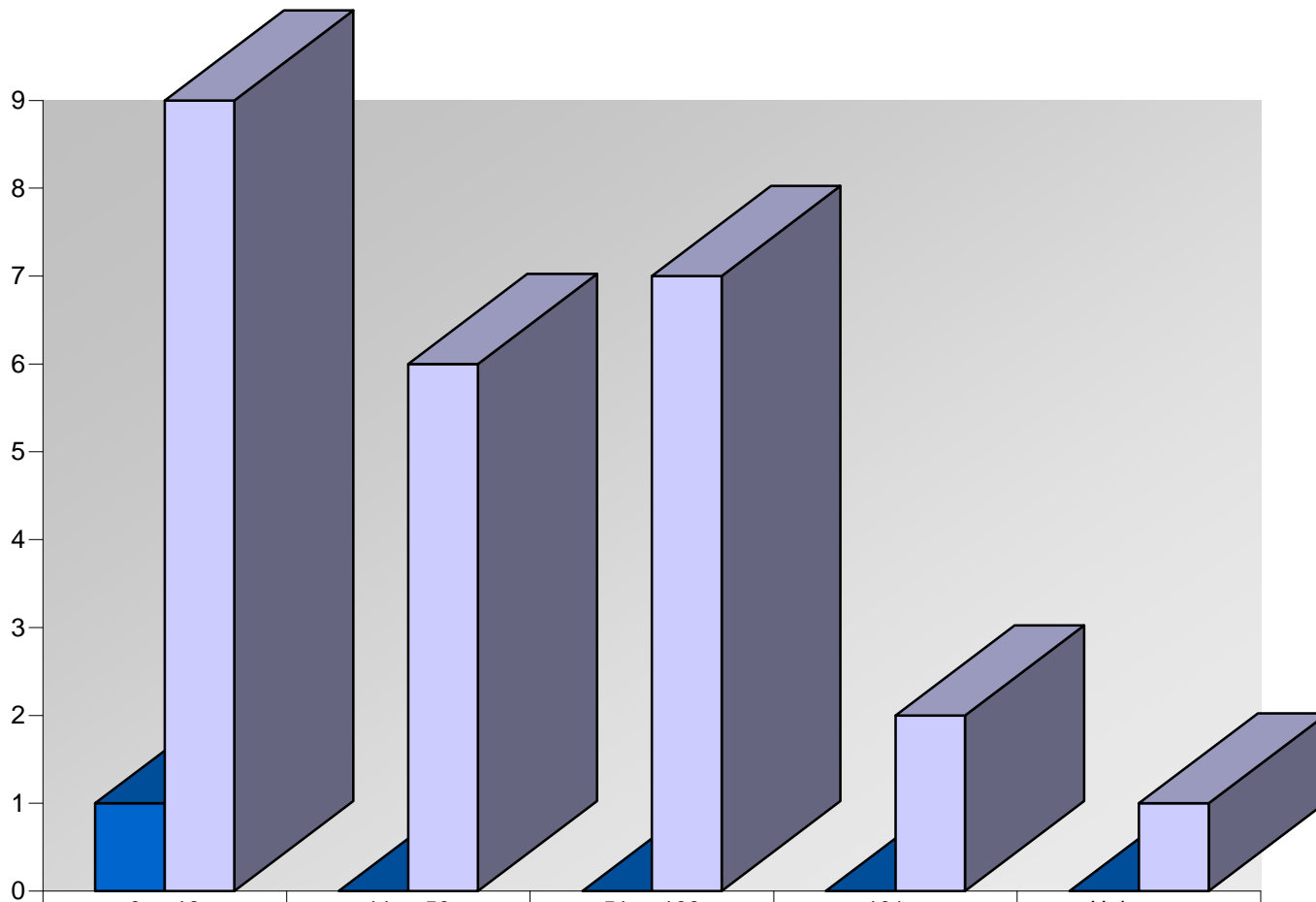
CONTRIBUTING FACTOR	FATAL	NON-FATAL	TOTAL
Apparent use of intoxicants/drugs	1	1	2
Arrow not matched to bow	0	0	0
Careless handling of bow/arrow	0	0	0
Careless handling of firearm	0	5	5
Carrying nocked arrow	0	0	0
Defective bow/arrow	0	0	0
Discharge firearm in/on vehicle	0	0	0
Dropped firearm	0	0	0
Failure to use haul line	0	0	0
Failure to use safety belt	4	4	8
Fall while climbing into/out of position	1	4	5
Faulty equipment	0	0	0
Firearm fell from insecure rest	0	1	1
Horseplay while hunting	0	0	0
Improper crossing of obstacle	0	1	1
Loading/unloading firearm	0	1	1
Obstruction in barrel	0	0	0
Other	0	0	0
Removing/placing loaded firearm in vehicle	0	0	0
Ricochet	0	0	0
Running/walking with loaded firearm	0	2	2
Shooter stumbled and fell	0	2	2
Shooting from/across roadway	0	1	1
Stringing bow	0	0	0
Trigger caught on object	0	1	1
Using firearm as a club	0	0	0
Victim covered by shooter swinging on game	0	4	4
Victim mistaken for game	0	5	5
Victim moved into line of fire	1	3	4
Victim out of sight of shooter	0	4	4

TYPE OF WEAPONS INVOLVED IN HUNTING ACCIDENTS

Reflects Category Type "A, B and C"

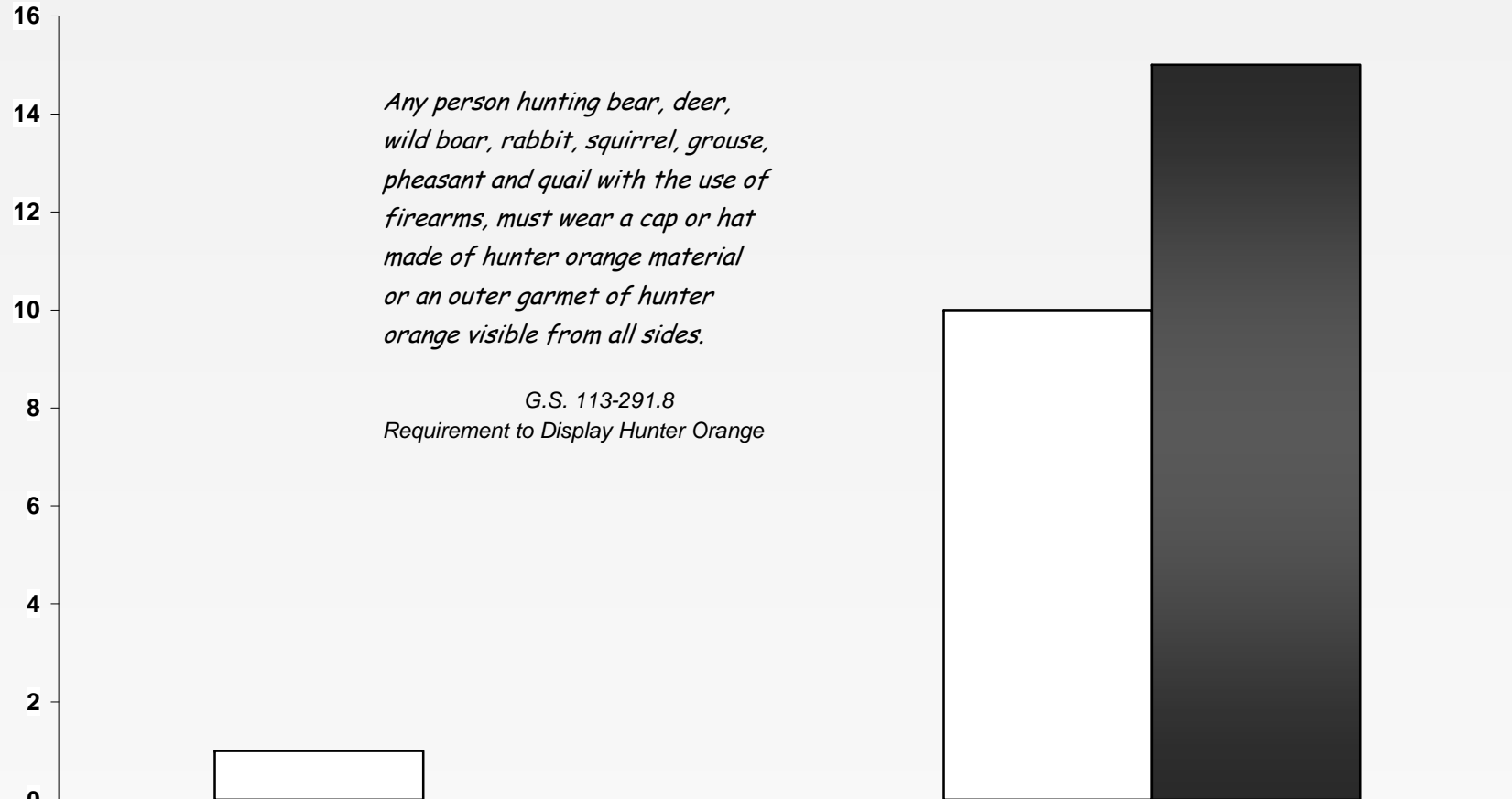


VICTIMS' DISTANCE IN YARDS FROM MUZZLE IN ACCIDENT
 Reflects Category Type "A" Accidents



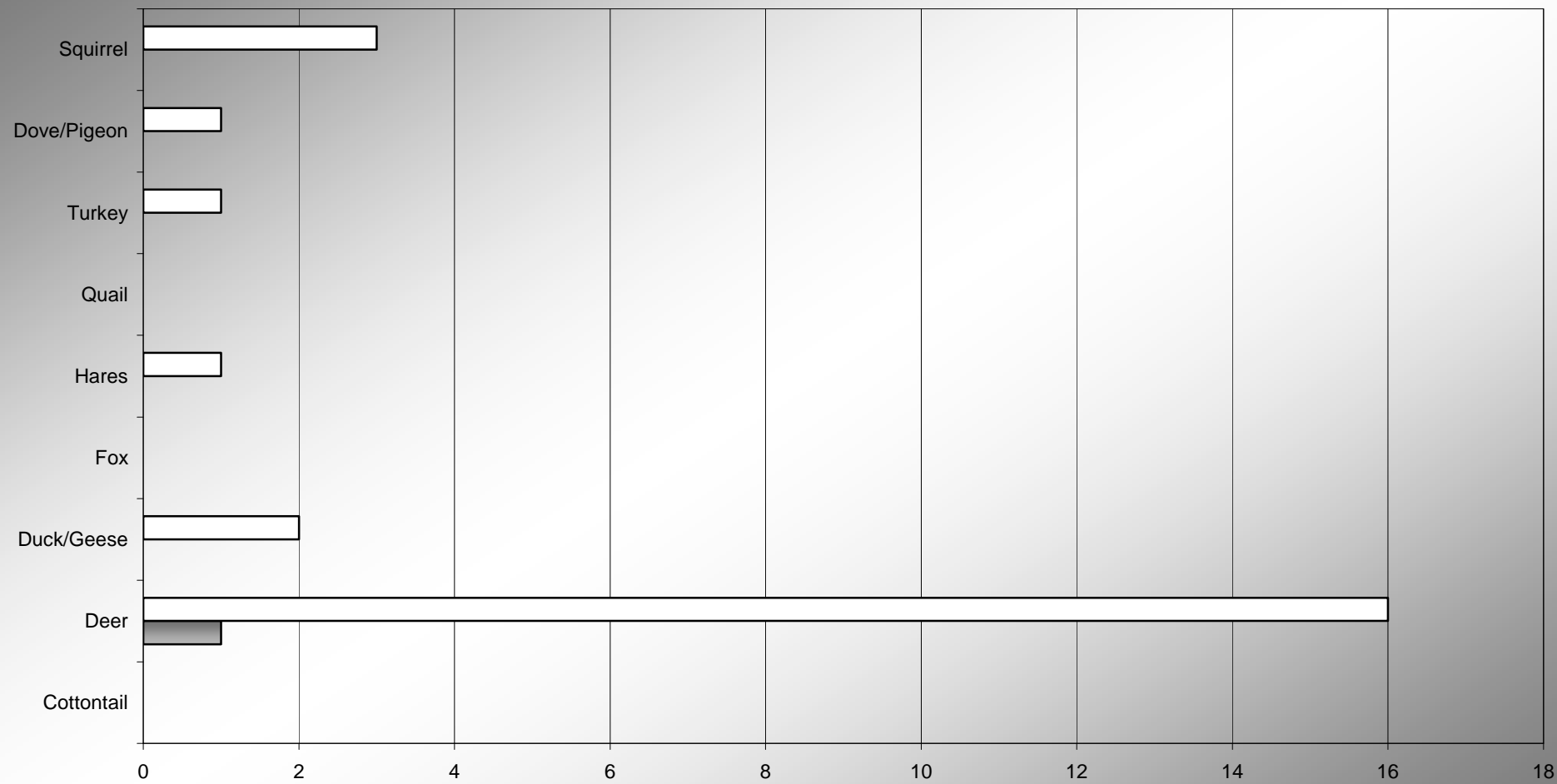
	0 to 10	11 to 50	51 to 100	101 +	Unknown
FATAL	1	0	0	0	0
NON-FATAL	9	6	7	2	1

HUNTER ORANGE WORN BY VICTIMS IN ACCIDENTS Reflects Category Type "A"



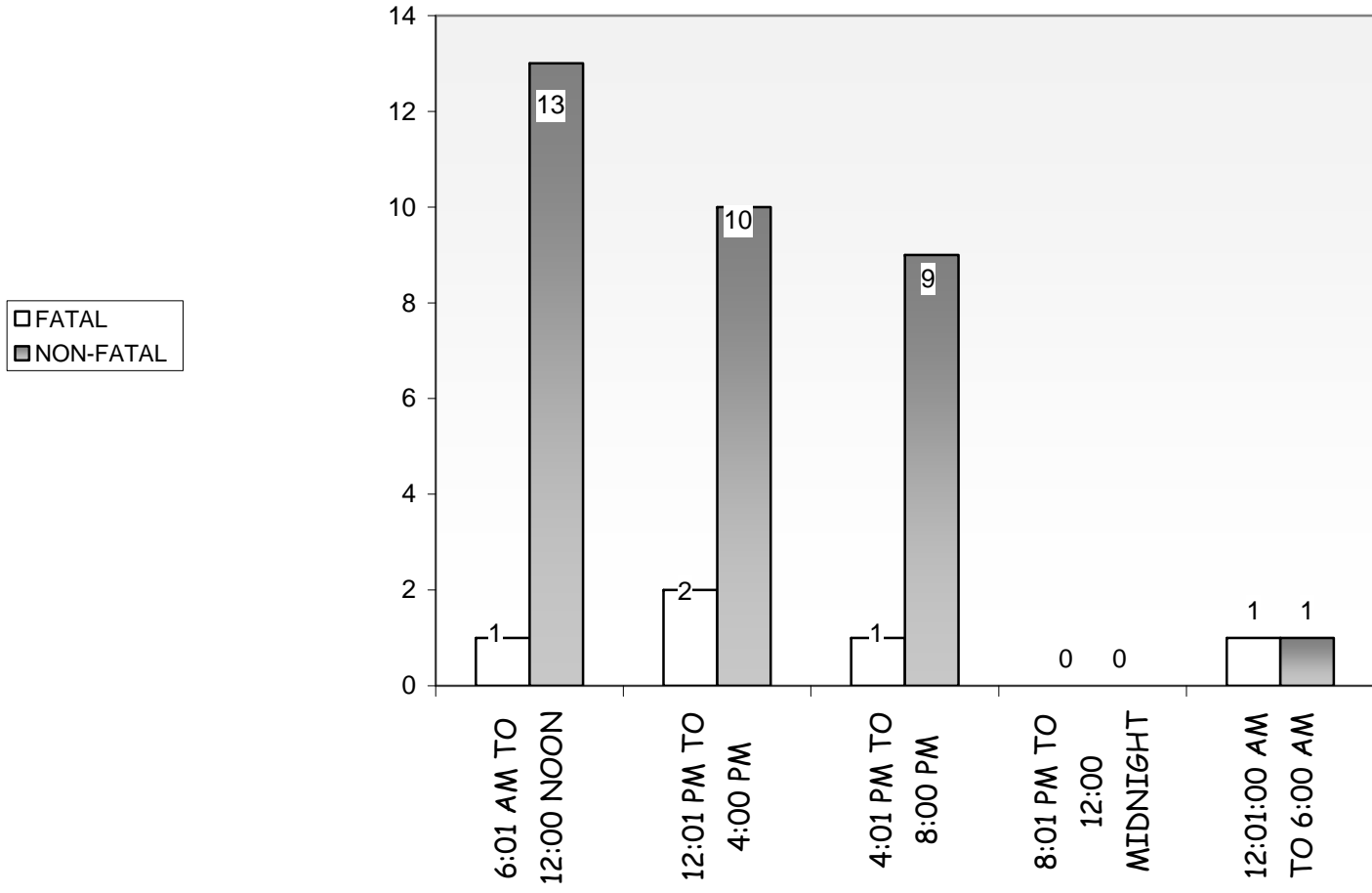
	FATAL	NON-FATAL
□ No orange	1	10
■ Orange	0	15

SPECIES BEING HUNTED IN ACCIDENTS
Reflects Category Type "A"

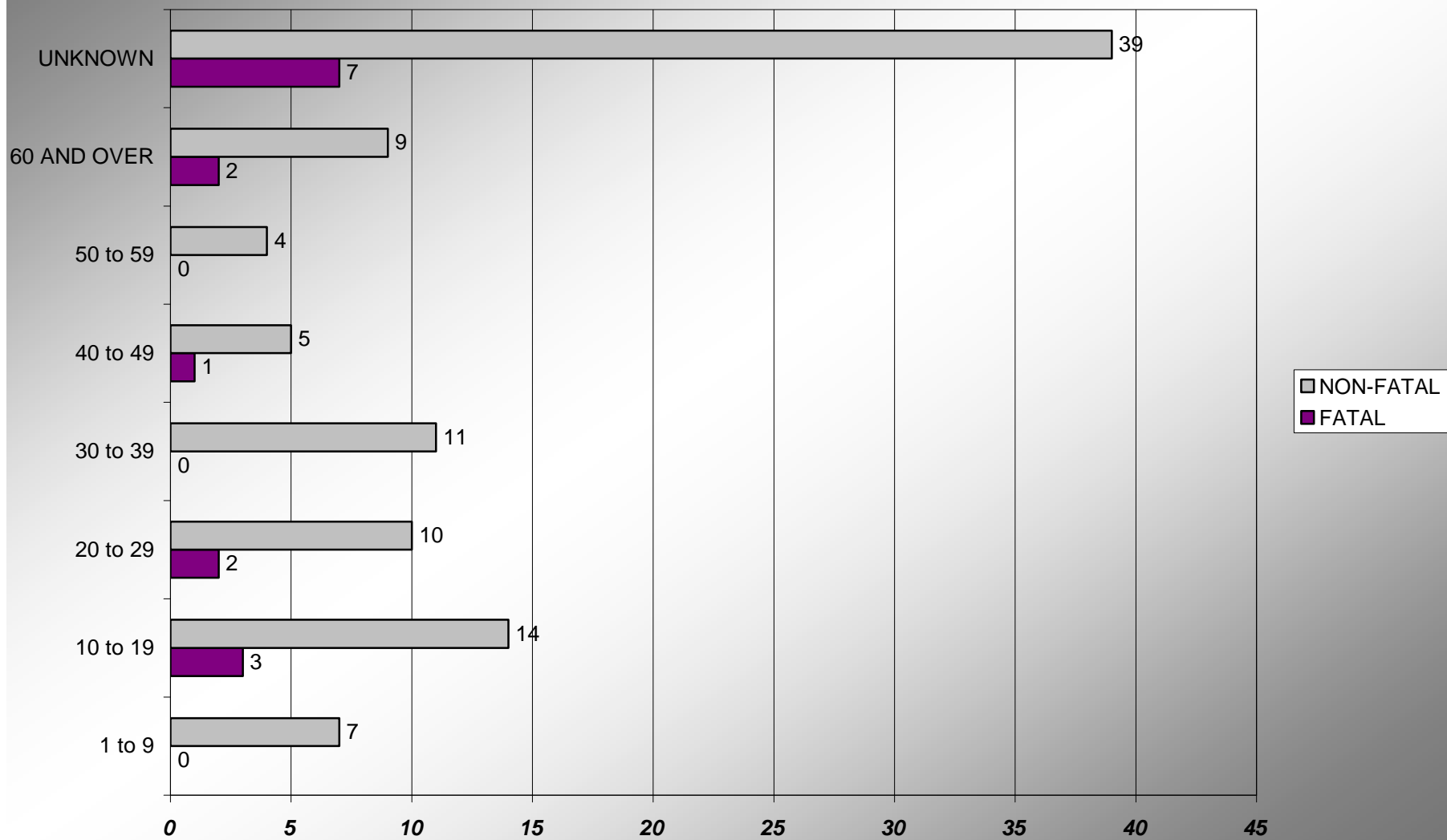


	Cottontail	Deer	Duck/Geese	Fox	Hares	Quail	Turkey	Dove/Pigeon	Squirrel
□ NON-FATAL	0	16	2	0	1	0	1	1	3
■ FATAL	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

TIME OF DAY COMPARISON IN ACCIDENTS

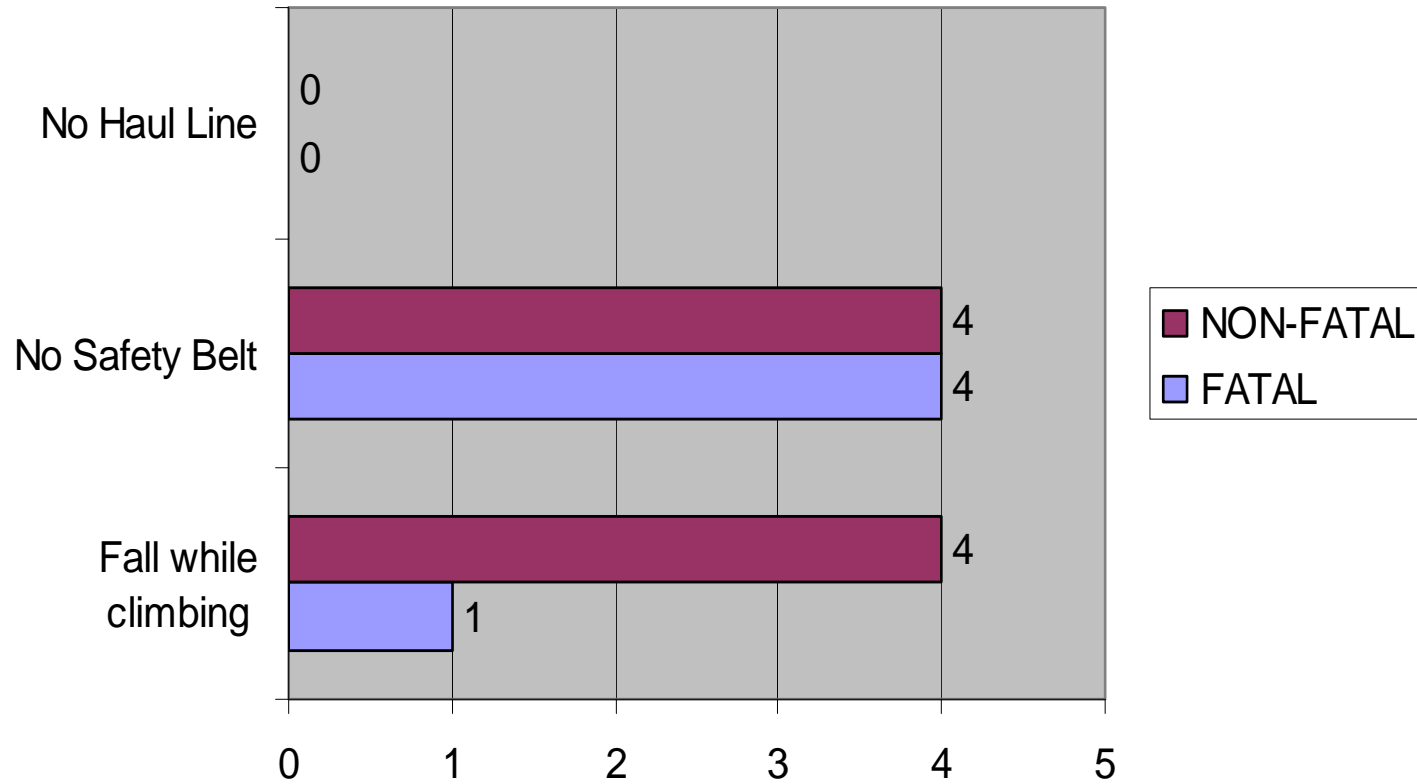


AGES OF PERSONS INVOLVED IN HUNTING ACCIDENTS (Fatal & Non-Fatal Combined)



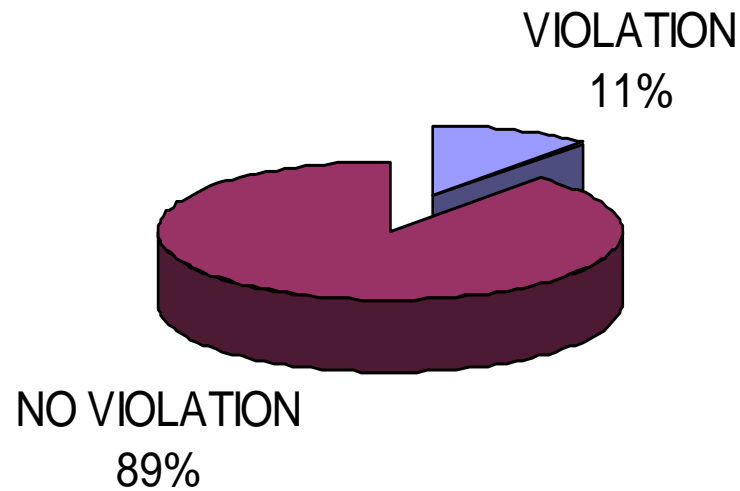
TREESTAND RELATED FACTORS

Reflects Category Type "A", "B" and "C"



SHOOTER IN VIOLATION OF THE LAW AT TIME OF ACCIDENT

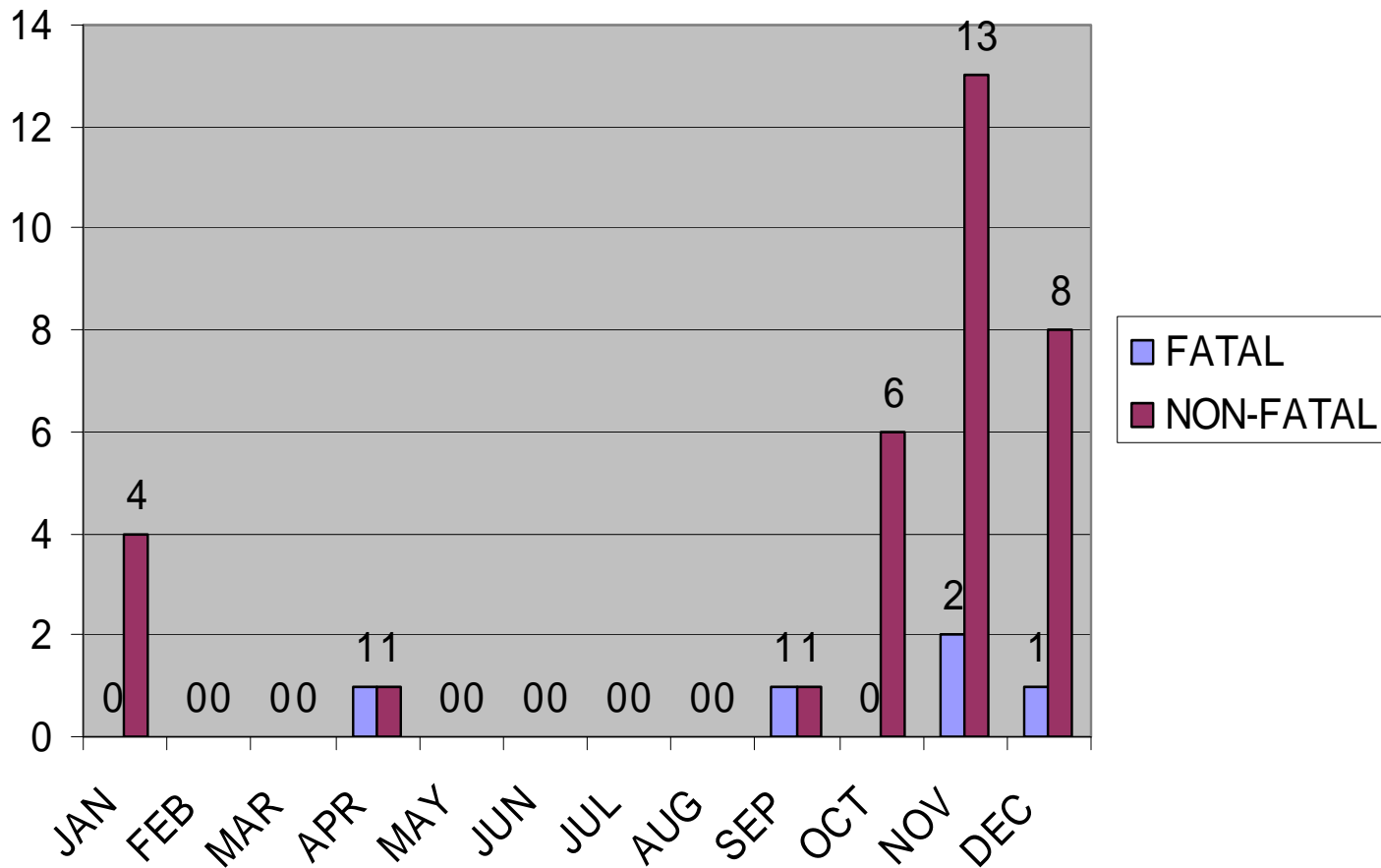
Reflects Category Type "A, B and C"



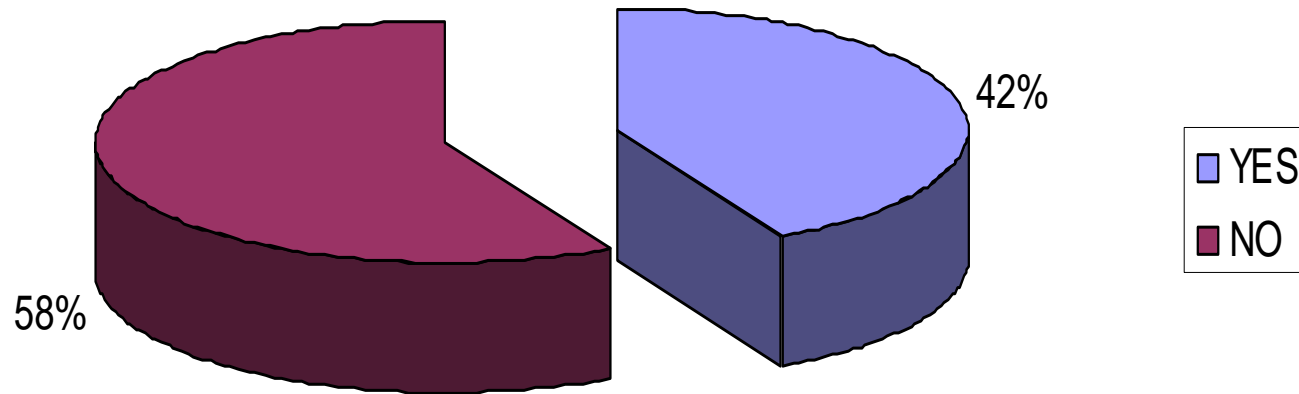
■ VIOLATION ■ NO VIOLATION

MONTHS WHICH HUNTING ACCIDENTS OCCUR

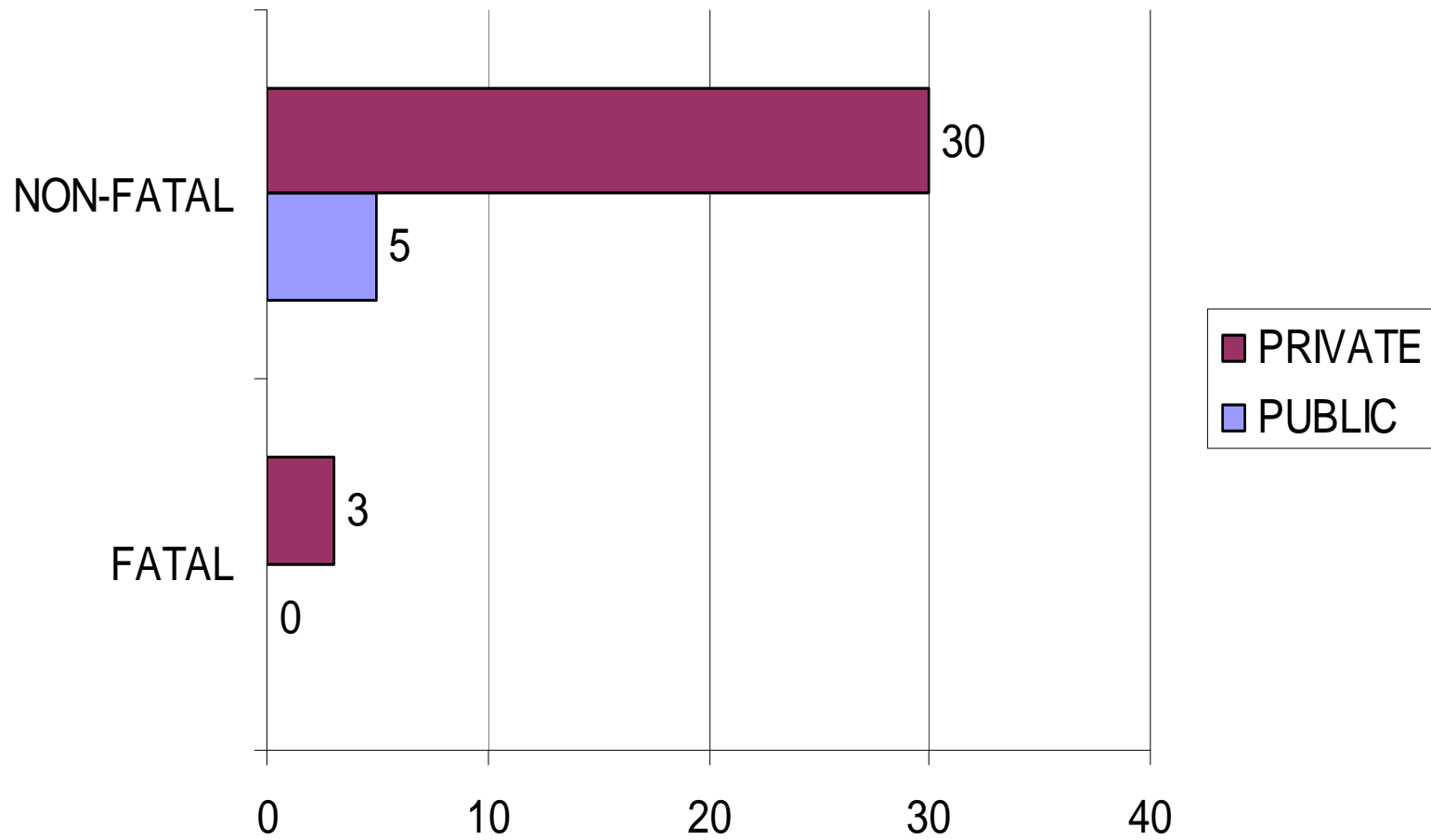
Reflects Only Months Accidents Occurred In



HUNTER EDUCATION COURSE TAKEN



PUBLIC AND PRIVATE LANDS
Data Reflects All 36 Accidents



HUNTER EDUCATION ASSOCIATION HUNTING AND HUNTING RELATED ACCIDENT REPORT

HEA-1 (Rev. 4/91)

Report Number: _____

INSTRUCTIONS TO INVESTIGATOR. This form is to be used for reporting all accidents/incidents arising from hunting, firearm or bow related activities classified as follows:

- A. An accident/incident resulting from the discharge of a firearm or bow while hunting, which causes the injury or death of any person(s).
- B. An accident/incident while hunting, not involving the discharge of a firearm or bow, which causes the injury or death of any person(s).
- C. Any other accidents/incidents resulting from the discharge of a firearm or bow, which causes injury or death of any person(s), other than while hunting.

NOTE: If possible, firearms, archery tackle, ammunition/powder or other equipment involved in a hunting accident/incident should be taken into the custody of the investigating officer for testing and/or evaluation.

Items marked with an asterisk are to be reported on the Hunter Education Association form (HEA-2)

*State/Province: _____ Location: _____

County/Parish: _____ Date: _____ Time of Day: _____ Day of Season: _____

Description of Injuries: _____

Land Ownership:	<input type="checkbox"/> Public	<input type="checkbox"/> Private	*Classification of Accident:	<input type="checkbox"/> A	<input type="checkbox"/> B	<input type="checkbox"/> B
*Type of Casualty:	<input type="checkbox"/> Fatal	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Fatal	Report submitted by:	<input type="checkbox"/> Shooter	<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	_____
Were shooter & victim members of same party?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Number of persons in party:	<input type="checkbox"/> _____		
*Was injury or death self-inflicted?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No					
Type of Weapon:	<input type="checkbox"/> Shotgun	<input type="checkbox"/> Rifle	<input type="checkbox"/> Handgun*	<input type="checkbox"/> Muzzleloader*	<input type="checkbox"/> Bow*	<input type="checkbox"/> Crossbow*
	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown*	<input type="checkbox"/> Other* _____				
Type of Action:	<input type="checkbox"/> Revolver	<input type="checkbox"/> Bolt	<input type="checkbox"/> Lever	<input type="checkbox"/> Semi-Auto	<input type="checkbox"/> Pump	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Miscellaneous:	Caliber: _____	Draw Weight: _____	Make: _____	Model: _____	Serial# _____	
Sights used:	<input type="checkbox"/> Open	<input type="checkbox"/> Scope	<input type="checkbox"/> Peep	<input type="checkbox"/> _____	Ammunition:	<input type="checkbox"/> Reload <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Factory
Safety Position:	<input type="checkbox"/> On	<input type="checkbox"/> Off	<input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	<input type="checkbox"/> No	Safety Treestand used:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Homemade <input type="checkbox"/> Factory

If self-inflicted, supply only SHOOTER information below, otherwise supply both SHOOTER and VICTIM information below.

SHOOTER				VICTIM			
Name: _____				Name: _____			
Address: _____				Address: _____			
City: _____		State/Province: _____		City: _____		State/Province: _____	
ID/DL/SSN# _____		Zip: _____		ID/DL/SSN# _____		Zip: _____	
DOB: _____		AGE: _____		DOB: _____		AGE: _____	
Hunting License #: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> N/A				Hunting License #: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
Years hunting experience: [] Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female				Years hunting experience: [] Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female			
Under the apparent influence of intoxicants or drugs? [] Yes [] No [] Unknown				Under the apparent influence of intoxicants or drugs? [] Yes [] No [] Unknown			
Hunter Education Certified? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown				Hunter Education Certified? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown			
State/Province Certified: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> N/A				State/Province Certified: _____ <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
*Game law violated? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown				*Game law violated? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown			
If so, what section? _____				If so, what section? _____			
Other laws violated? _____				Other laws violated? _____			
Shooter involved in hunting related activity? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unk				Shooter involved in hunting related activity? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Unk			
Check the appropriate box below:				Check the appropriate box below:			
Clothing Worn	Cap	Coat/Vest	Trousers	Clothing Worn	Cap	Coat/Vest	Trousers
Blaze Orange				Blaze Orange			
Red				Red			
Brown				Brown			
Blue or Green				Blue or Green			
Camo (not Camo-orange)				Camo (not Camo-orange)			
Other?				Other?			

G.S. 113-270.1A HUNTER SAFETY COURSE REQUIRED

- (a) On or after July 1, 1991, a person, regardless of age, may not procure a hunting license or hunt in this state without producing a certificate of competency or a hunting license issued prior to July 1, 1991, or making out an affidavit that he/she had such a license.
- (b) The Wildlife Resources Commission shall institute and coordinate a statewide course of instruction in hunter ethics, wildlife laws and regulations, and competency and safety in the handling of firearms, and in so doing, may cooperate with any political subdivision or with any reputable organization having as one of its objectives the promotion of competency and safety in the handling of firearms, including the local rod and gun clubs.
 - (1) The Wildlife Resources Commission shall designate those persons or agencies authorized to give the course of instruction, and this designation shall be valid until revoked by the Commission. Those designated persons shall submit to the Wildlife Resources Commission validated listings naming all persons who have successfully completed the course of instruction.
 - (2) The Wildlife Resources Commission may conduct the course in hunter safety, using Commission personnel or other persons at times and in areas where other competent agencies are unable or unwilling to meet the demand for instruction.
 - (3) The Wildlife Resources Commission shall issue a certificate of competency and safety to each person who successfully completed the course of instruction, and the certificate shall be valid until revoked by the Commission.
 - (4) Any similar certificate issued outside the state by a governmental agency, shall be accepted as complying with the requirements of subsection (a) above, if the privileges are reciprocal for North Carolina residents.
 - (5) The Wildlife Resources Commission shall adopt rules and regulations to provide for the course of instruction and the issuance of the certificates consistent with the purpose of this section.
- (c) On or after July 1, 1991, any person who obtains a hunting license by presenting a fictitious certificate of competency or who attempts to obtain a certificate of competency or hunting license through fraud shall have his hunting privileges revoked by the Wildlife Resources Commission for a period not to exceed one year.
- (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, the lifetime licenses provided for in G.S. 113-270.1D(b)(1), (2), and (3) and G.S. 113-270.2(c)(2) may be purchased by or in the name of persons who have not obtained a hunter safety certificate of competency, subject to the requirements of this subsection. Pending satisfactory completion of the hunter safety course, persons who possess one of the lifetime licenses specified in this subsection may exercise the privileges of the lifetime license only when accompanied by an adult who is licensed to hunt in this State. For the purpose of this section, "accompanied" means that the adult maintains a proximity that enables the adult to monitor the activities of, and communicate with, the young hunter at all times."

G.S. 113-291.8 REQUIREMENT TO DISPLAY HUNTER ORANGE

- (a) Any person hunting game animals other than foxes, bobcats, raccoons and opossum, or hunting upland game birds other than wild turkeys, with firearms, must wear a cap or hat on his/her head made of hunter orange material or an outer garment of hunter orange visible from all sides. A Hunter orange material is a material that is a daylight fluorescent orange color.

This section does not apply to landholder, his spouse, or children who are hunting on land held by the landholder.

Conservation Pledge

*I give my
pledge as an American
to save and faithfully to defend
from waste the natural resources of
my country - its soil, air,
forests, waters,
and wildlife*

REPORT WILDLIFE VIOLATIONS
N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, 1 - 800 - 662 - 7137

The Wildlife Resources Commission is an Equal Opportunity Employer and all wildlife programs are administered for the benefit of all North Carolina citizens without prejudice towards age, race, religion, or national origin. Violations of this pledge may be reported to the Equal Employment Officer, Carol Batker, Personnel Officer, 1703 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1703, Telephone (919) 707-0106

N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission



Before Hunting You Must...

Produce a past hunting license or an affidavit stating you had one.

OR

Be a certified Hunter Education course graduate
G.S. 113-270.1A

**For Information on Hunter Education Courses
Contact (919) 707-0030**

OR

**View Schedules and Register Online at
www.ncwildlife.org
Click *Online Services***

